

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Mid-Term Ozone Improvements
Fargo (Cass County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 0900336-04

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Mid-Term Ozone Improvements project for the City of Fargo in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of improvements to the ozone gas generation system within the drinking water treatment plant. These improvements include two new vaporizers, a new vacuum swing adsorption system, and a new ozone generator. This project will provide greater flexibility and resiliency for the Fargo drinking water treatment plant.

The City of Fargo has a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely in or adjacent to the Fargo drinking water treatment plant. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concluded that no historic properties will be affected by this project (ND SHPO Ref.: 21-0090). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Fargo and Cass County.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Bryan R. Schmitt, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 918 East Divide Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bismarck, ND, 58501-1947.

Dated the 28th day of July, 2021

David J. Bruschwein, P.E.
Director
Division of Municipal Facilities